

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 06628 011906Z

50

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 MC-01 SP-02 PM-03 L-01 INR-05

DODE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 IO-03 ACDA-05 /048 W

----- 124776

R 011706Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0740

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 06628

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MASS, GR, UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH ARMS SALES TO GREECE

1. ON APRIL 30 VISITING DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL EAGLETON GAVE BRIEFING IN GENERAL TERMS TO FCO ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY MORGAN AND ACTING SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN DEPARTMENT HEAD WESTON ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING CYPRUS AS VIEWED BY DEPARTMENT. BRITISH REPLIED THAT THEIR OWN PERCEPTION OF THE SITUATION WAS VERY SIMILAR.

2. SUBSEQUENT TO THE MEETING, WESTON CONFIDED THAT BRITISH HAVE BEEN RECEIVING GREEK REQUESTS FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT. BRITISH HAVE AGREED TO SUPPLY 105 MILLIMETER GUNS AS WELL AS FORGINGS FOR GUNS TO BE FITTED TO (ABOUT 200) LEOPARD TANKS THAT WILL BE SOLD BY GERMANS TO GREECE. THESE ARE FIRST SUCH ARMS REQUESTS FROM GREECE. FCO HOPES TO KEEP MATTER CONFIDENTIAL. IT PERCEIVES SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR HMG AND NATO SHOULD BRITISH LATER TURN DOWN TURKISH REQUESTS FOR ARMS. THAT WOULD PUT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 06628 011906Z

BRITISH IN POSITION OF SUPPLYING GREECE WHICH IS DECREAS-

ING ITS TIES WITH NATO WHILE REFUSING TO SUPPLY FULL NATO
MEMBER SUCH AS TURKEY. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SERIOUS PROB-
LEMS OF PERCEPTION AT HIGHEST LEVELS OF HMG AS WELL AS
DOMESTIC BRITISH POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WHICH MAKE SUCH
A SCENARIO NOT IMPLAUSIBLE.

RICHARDSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, ARMS, SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON06628
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750153-0833
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750590/aaaadehh.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <15 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRITISH ARMS SALES TO GREECE
TAGS: MASS, GR, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006